## How to Use This Fiction Book Outline

Welcome to your pre-generated book outline! The purpose of this handy tool is to give you a "fill-in-the-blank" format to follow in order to get your book

This is confidential and for personal use ONLY.

How to edit your own outline: Before you can edit this document, you must go to the upper left, select "File" and then "Make a Copy" to have an editable version of this document.



We've put in the work to pre-format a few things for you, along with providing a roadmap in order to get your book done. Not to mention the several resources included along the way in order to make each of these sections easier for you.

## **Before You Start**

#### Here are a few things for you to know before you get started:

- 1.) Everything in blue is what you will replace with your own content. This means to be aware of changes in the Copyright and Self-Promo pages at the beginning of your book.
- 2.) The structure of your fiction novel will vary depending on the genre and audience. So keep in mind that these tips for each section are just that, *tips* based on what we've seen work best in selling books.
- 3.) The resources provided for each section are there to help you along the way. We've listed blog posts that will be *very* beneficial to read both before outlining and before writing your first draft.

#### Steps to finish your outline:

- 1.) Read Mind Map and fill it out! Check out this blog post to access it.
- 2.) Read this blog post to understand how this outline should work and help you accomplish finishing your book.
- 3.) For more help I take a separate course teaching you how to exactly finish this outline step-by-step.

#### Steps to finish your book:

- 1.) Read this blog post and any other sources listed in order to cut down on both writing and editing time.
- 2.) If you have no idea on what to write and/or how to, <u>read my blog for inspiration and helpful articles.</u>

If you need more support on how to start and where to go drop an email at: <a href="mailto:inditeinfo@gmail.com">inditeinfo@gmail.com</a>



#### Resources:

How to Choose a Book Title

## Copyright Page:

#### Your Book Title<sup>®</sup> Copyright <<YEAR>> Your Name

Copyright notice: All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

This is a work of fiction. Names, places, characters, and incidents are either the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously, and any resemblance to any actual persons, living or dead, organizations, events, or locales is entirely coincidental.

Warning: the unauthorized reproduction or distribution of this copyrighted work is illegal. Criminal copyright infringement, including infringement without monetary gain, is investigated by the FBI and is punishable.

For more information, email youremailhere@youremail.com.

## Self-Promo:

[Optional: This is a great space to promote other books, input your social handles, or do any other form of self-promo you deem necessary or beneficial]

Check out this example from our Fiction Coach's *Mortality Bites* box set:

#### JOIN THE CLAN!

The GoneGod World is all about mythical creatures trying to make an honest living in the modern, mortal world. If you'd like a behind-the-scenes look at the GoneGod World, get access to exclusive kick-ass, entertaining stories and be a part of the GoneGod World's VIP club, then sign-up and we'll send you some awe some*ness* your way!

Sign up for my NEWSLETTER

https://www.subscribepage.com/F-MORTALITY-BITES

And...

Join Ramy Vance's House of the GoneGod Damned!

I respond to all messages, so if you have any comments, thoughts, love or ire, be sure to reach out.

## Acknowledgments:

If you've got people to thank, those who've helped you along the way,

feel free to drop those here!

You can make it short and sweet, or write a page of them if there have been

several people to assist you.

## **Table of Contents:**

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## Prologue [optional]:

Only write a prologue if it is *absolutely* necessary. Many prologues get overlooked by readers because some authors write them as an "info-dump" instead of a part of the story.

If your only intention for your prologue is to talk about the world, don't write it.

A prologue should be a part of the story, a full scene with characters.

#### Resources:

## Part 1:

Of a 3 Act Structure - Setups & Failures & The First Slap

If you're not a student of any of my courses, read this post first!

Before we get into the details, we'll be using a <u>3 Act Structure</u> in order to complete the rest of the outlining process.

As you likely already know, the number of chapters varies greatly depending on each book. Therefore, we can't outline each chapter for you.

Your story should follow a similar pattern in the following chapters. There is no limit, minimum or maximum, that you have to hit for chapter numbers. Just remember: each chapter should be significant to the plot and move it forward.

## The First Slap Setup:

This is a significant moment of failure for your character where 70% of hope is lost.

**The first Slap setup:** Write the event of your first Slap here in order to work from. What is the first biggest obstacle your character will face and *lose*? Remember, this sets them back significantly from their goal.

- How does this impact your character in his journey?
- How does it impact your character emotionally?
- How does this impact your character's goal?
- What does the antagonist do to cause such behavior

#### Resources:

How to Write a Novel
Story Structures
3 Act Structure Blog Post

How to select the POV
How to create a plot

#### The Setup

This is a vital part of your book. While many writers spend a *long* time (too long) on the first sentence, what's most important here is the first page altogether. It's not *just* about your first sentence, so forget that!

But, you do want to make sure you're using this first chapter to set up your character, what their life looks like, as well as an introduction to the potential conflict in the book.

Make sure your story starts with something to look forward to in the whole book OR you can also start with an action done by the character and then later in the book, give details about why he was doing it. This will make the reader look forward to finding out what will happen and what this is all about.

#### Outline Scene 1: Place your scene setting here

- Introduce the character to the readers mentioning daily activities and responsibilities.
- Pick a few unique characteristics to highlight in this chapter
  - o Ex. shy, hyperactive, short.
- What happens in the opening? Make it interesting to catch the reader's attention.
- How are their daily jobs linked with the main conflict of the story?
- Who are the other characters introduced?
- If you can foretell any twist in your climax in chapter 1, it will be AWESOME!

If your scene changes you can have another optional scene

#### Resources:

How to Start a StoryCharacter DevelopmentHow to Write a ChapterHow to Write a Novel

#### The Inciting Incident

Now, the <u>inciting incident</u> can happen in the first chapter. Keep in mind that by doing so, you're promising your readers a fast-paced book, and therefore you'll have to maintain this throughout.

At the same time, you can also have a chapter between the first and the inciting incident if you want to develop a stronger emotional tie to your character first.

However, the inciting incident typically happens later in the book, in chapter 2 or 3. Avoid putting this incident several chapters into your book or people will think it's boring, and will have the mindset of, "just get to the good stuff already."

#### **Outline Scene 1: Place your scene setting here**

- How does this chapter connect to the previous ONE?
- Who are important characters?
- What is the inciting incident?
- How does your character react to the inciting incident?
  - Remember to drop hints about their motive
  - This is also a great time to do some character development to show how they respond to situations such as these.
- What happens after the inciting incident?

#### Resources:

How to Write an Inciting Incident
Character Development
Few tips for beginner writers

how to write Description
How to write tone

- What is the biggest conflict relating to the inciting incident?
- Who are important characters in this scene?
- What challenge will your character face and *overcome* in this chapter (typically small)
- Your character succeeds, but, what negative happens as a result?
- How does this chapter move the main plot forward?
- How does the chapter come to a close? Cliff hanger maybe?
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

- Your character loses and another issue/problem arises (can also be small)?
- How does this chapter move the main plot forward?
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?
- Can you foreshadow any twists you have planned here?

- How does your character work to overcome their recent loss?
- What internal conflict can you add here to give your story more "beef"?
  - Think: they have to solve their recent loss with a method that goes against their morals, they have to overcome an internal fear to accomplish a new goal, etc.
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

- Let this chapter serve as the "set up" to your first Slap
- What needs to be in place here in order to make the next chapter (your first Slap) happen? What is a small win you can grant your character before this big loss?
- Add in a meaningful, happier character moment in order to create juxtaposition with the big loss in the next chapter
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

#### Place your scene/s setting here

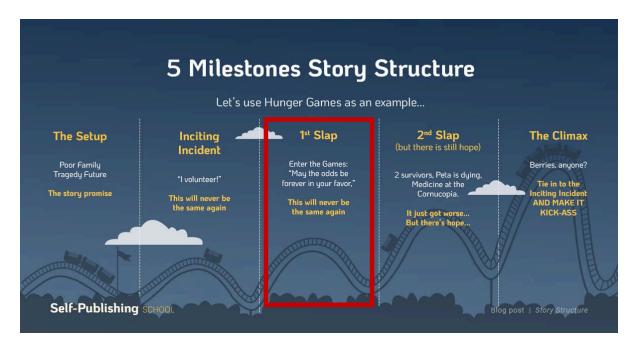
- Let this chapter serve as the "set up" to your first Slap
- What needs to be in place here in order to make the next chapter (your first Slap) happen? What is a small win you can grant your character before this big loss?
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

[**Note**: You may have more than only a few chapters throughout Part 1 of your book. These serve as a guide for structure to increase conflict and intrigue. Feel free to repeat or add more chapters before your First Slap and keep in mind the rotation of consequences being related to the main plot *and* your character's internal struggles or conflicts.]

## **Chapter 8 - The First Slap**

#### Place your scene/s setting here

- This is your first slap! What happens here and how does your main character react?
- How does this slap tie into the main plot and subplots or internal character conflict?
- What has your character lost in this chapter and how will that impact their plans for success thus far?
- Are you able to foreshadow any future twists you have planned here? Doing so during a big moment like the First Slap can hide it better--think of this like a magician doing sleight of hand.



#### Resources:

Editing your story
Story Structures

## Part 2:

Of a 3 Act Structure - Taking Action, Higher Conflict, & The Second Slap

Part 2 Summary: During the second part of your book, the bulk of the "action" will happen and your character will move from a place of "reaction" to a place of "proaction". Think of it as your character finally taking the offense after playing defense during the first part.

This will be higher intensity, usually faster paced (meaning more cliffhanging chapters), and the most devastating blow your character will face comes at the end of this, called The Second Slap.

## The Second Slap Setup:

This is a significant moment of failure for your character where 99% of hope is lost, and it seems like your main character will not succeed.

The second Slap setup: Write the event of your second Slap here in order to work from, so you can craft the chapter and conflicts in order to reach this.

- How does this impact your character in his journey?
- How does it impact your character emotionally?
- How does this impact your character's goal?
- What does the antagonist do to cause such behavior

Student Resources: Resources:

3 Act Structure Blog Post **Story Structure** 

Module 3: Step 1 - Action/Reaction

- What vital information have we learned so far for your character's journey?
- How can you use this chapter to foreshadow your Second Slap?
- Add a vital character moment here that shows their growth since Part 1
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

- Craft this chapter as a "learning moment" for your character, be it a skill, information, etc. Slow the pacing a bit and let us into the world here (but avoid info-dumping!)
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?
- How can you foreshadow any twists you have planned here?

- What earlier subplot conflict can you bring back into this chapter?
- How can you use the setting of this scene as a plot conflict in this chapter?
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

- Can you introduce a new character we have trouble trusting here (this can add a new layer of intrigue halfway through the story, which can help this "middle" section avoid the "drag")?
- What internal conflict or struggle can your character work on in this chapter to help their character arc?
- How does the chapter come to a close (is this conflict resolved, is it a cliffhanger, do we solve it in the next chapter?)
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?
- What foreshadowing for your big twist can you put here?

- What big challenge can your character face here that sets up your Second Slap?
- Show us character relationships here. Who have they grown close with? How has this impacted their role in the story and their odds of succeeding?

#### Place your scene/s setting here

- What surprise twist can you throw in here that will make the obstacle for The Second Slap extra difficult?
- How can you create a warm/happy mood here to offset the next chapter's difficulties/to throw your readers off?
- How does the chapter come to a close (is this conflict resolved, is it a cliffhanger, do we solve it in the next chapter?)
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

[**Note**: You may have more than this many chapters in Part 2 of your book. These serve as a guide for structure to increase conflict and intrigue. Feel free to repeat or add more chapters before your Second Slap and keep in mind the rotation of consequences being related to the main plot *and* your character's internal struggles or conflicts.]

## **Chapter 15 - The Second Slap**

#### Place your scene/s setting here

- How does your Second Slap unfold and how does it directly relate to the antagonist?
- What is your character's reaction to this?
- Why is nearly all hope lost?
- Can you tie a subplot *and* main plot point into your Second Slap in order to increase the "loss" for your character (and make it hurt more!)?
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?



#### Resources:

3 Act Structure Blog Post Story Structures

## Part 3:

Of a 3 Act Structure - The Climax & Resolution

**Part 3 Summary:** This is the final "hurrah!" of your story, where your character will go from their lowest low, to facing off their biggest challenge/the antagonist, to the resolution of the book. This will be a fast-paced section, high tension, with a lot of tying up loose ends.

Typically, this is the shortest of your Three Acts. There shouldn't be much more than 3-5 chapters in this section, meant for the rise after the Second Slap, the setup for your climax, the climax, and your resolution, which should never be more than two chapters.

## The Climax Setup:

There are few rules for a climax other than it has to be epic, amazing, and fulfill on the promises you set up for your readers from the first chapter.

**The climax setup:** What is your climax? How does your climax tie in to the promises you set up in the opening of your book? What is sacrificed in order to make the climax possible (this isn't necessarily required, but think about moral/emotional sacrifices along with physical ones, etc.).

**Climax twist:** This is obviously not required. You can write an epic book with a strong, impactful climax without having a twist. However, this does add another layer to this moment that can bring it from "great" to "unforgettable".

#### Resources:

3 Act Structure Blog Post Story Structures How to Write a Novel

- How does this chapter connect to the previous?
- Who are important characters in this scene?
- This is the "assess what happened" after our Second Slap, so craft a scene where your character has to deal with the consequences
- What are the new obstacles your character must face and how can you highlight them in a foreboding manner in this chapter?
- How does the chapter come to a close **note:** end this chapter on a cliffhanger to keep the pages turning/keep high tension and momentum
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

#### Place your scene/s setting here

- How does this chapter connect to the previous?
- Who are important characters in this scene?
- This chapter should serve as your "new plan of attack" after your character realizes their new obstacles
- Craft a scene where your character is now coming up with and taking action on new plans
- How does the chapter come to a close (is this conflict resolved, is it a cliffhanger, do we solve it in the next chapter?)

What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)?

#### Place your scene/s setting here

- How does this chapter connect to the previous?
- Who are important characters in this scene?
- This is right before the climax, so what *must* happen in order to set up for that, and how can you use this to foreshadow the twist that's about to come?
- How does the chapter come to a close **note:** end this one on a cliffhanger to keep the pages turning!
- What is happening behind the scenes during this time that we can't see (what's the antagonist up to)

[**Note**: There shouldn't be more than 4-6 chapters in Part 3 of a 3 Act structure. Doing so can make your story feel as though it's dragging on too long. However, each book is unique, so use your judgement on this one.]

## **Chapter 19 - The Climax**

- How does this chapter connect to the previous?
- Who are important characters in this scene?
- What events take place during the climax?
- How does your character almost fail and what helps them succeed instead of failure?
- How can you tie in personal/character growth in with the physical events of the climax?
- Close this chapter *without* a cliffhanger--this chapter should have a start, middle, and end.
- What is the big twist (if you have one) that needs to be unveiled in this chapter?

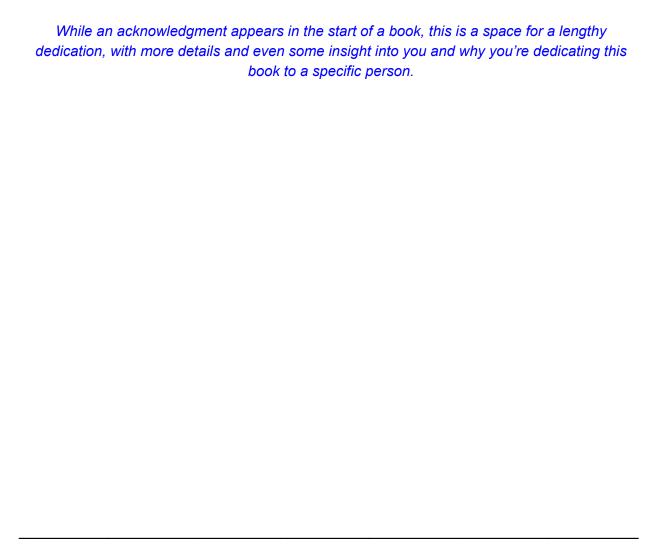
## **Chapter 20 - The Resolution**

## Place your scene/s setting here

- How does this chapter connect to the previous?
- Who are important characters in this scene?
- What's the aftermath of the climax and how does your character react to it?
- How can you close loops and answer any questions you've left readers with?
- How can you open a loop--only if you have a sequel planned?
- How does the story end and how is your character different than they were from the start of the story?

The End

## **Dedication** [optional]



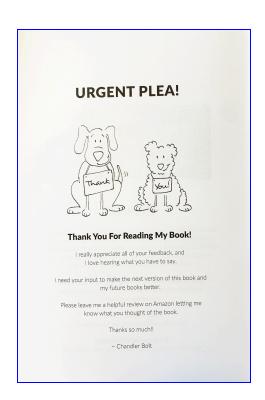
## Review Ask

While this is optional, we highly recommend everyone add this page in the page of their books.

This is a great opportunity for you to ask readers to "give back" in the form of a review.

## Love this book? Don't forget to leave a review!

#### Check out this example:



#### Resources:

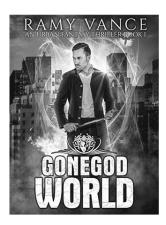
Join the forum to get your book reviewed

## Read More! [Optional]

If you have another book in this series or have other series for the readers, drop them here! You can even upload a picture or two with a couple quotes of endorsements.

#### Example:

## Craving More?



"Thrilling, interesting, and I couldn't put it down!" - Reader

Read my new series:

**GONE GOD WORLD** 

## **Author Bio**

This is a space for you to leave your author bio, and a headshot of yourself!

Example:

Ramy Vance is a Canadian who lives in Edinburgh with his wife, three-year-old kid and imaginary dog. He enjoys a beautiful city, whisky (Scottish spelling, not mine) and long walks. He writes kickass Urban Fantasy thrillers set in the GoneGod World (and elsewhere). Currently his greatest aspirations are writing more stories and finally getting that real dog so he can have an excuse to go on even more long walks.

# Ready to Finally Write and Publish Your Book?

Or just need some help with the process?

Click here to guest post for us
Or email:
inditeinfo@gmail.com